

Pu 114/3639

To the High Court of the Military Government
H A M B U R G

Subject:- Petition of the labourer Emil Poppe, living at Wewelsburg, Kreis Büren in Westphalia, for the abolition of the verdict against his foster-daughter, Irene Haschke, born on 16.2.21 at Friedeberg on Queiss, Kreis Löwenberg/Silesia, at present imprisoned at Fuhlsbüttel near Hamburg, Suhrenkamp 98.

MIL. GOV. COURTS

Justice Gebäude

Hamburg

Recd 214

4. OCT 1947

My foster-daughter Irene HASCHKE has been sentenced to 10 years of hard labour by the British Military Court Hamburg on 17.11.1945 because she was said to have taken part at illtreatments against jewish internees in the camp of Beelsen. - I beg the High Court of the Military Government to kindly consider a review of the case in favour of the accused for the following reasons:

My foster-daughter worked in the spinning-mills of Teichgräber at Röhrsdorf near Friedeberg on Queiss. Owing to the fact that more and more male workers of the factory were called to the Wehrmacht the management of the establishment asked for jewish workers which were conceded. My foster-daughter and several others of the female workers were forced to take over the supervising of these jews. Those who refused were arrested and threatened with severe punishments. The supervisors had to pass a training course of about 6 weeks with the SS at Langenbielau and Weisswasser/Silesia. On 16.2.1945 the supervising personnel was ordered to bring these jewish workers to Kratzau CSR and then to report to the concentration camp of Beelsen. This camp was already in a state of great disorder and my fosterdaughter begged to be dismissed home but which under compulsion and threatenings was refused. She finally was arrested by the Allies on 17.4.1945.

As far as I know the supervising personnel of Beelsen had to intervene frequently owing to the fact that the internees by that time already knew quite well that the end of the nazi-regime drew near so that some of the many jewish persons started to get mutinous and rebelled thus endangering order and discipline. They did not listen to persuasion or admonitions. So the personnel had to intervene repeatedly and some of the internees had to be slapped which fact has been frankly admitted by my foster-daughter. But it is my firm belief that these slappings were meant more educatory than anything else at least on the part of my foster-daughter. I never can believe in an odious illtreatment on her part as she has always been a good-natured woman. She also educated her child like a good mother does. I am sure, therefore, that false statements have been made against her. I would like to point out especially that she has been in the camp of Beelsen only for the last 6 weeks. It is impossible to punish my foster-daughter for all the horrible deeds done by the SS in their activity of many years especially so as she did not execute this activity of her own free will. It therefore is not at all comprehensible that she has been sentenced to such a severe penalty.

I myself have been an opponent to the nazis and as such have never been a member of the NSDAP, on the contrary I have been a socialist already for many years and I always enlightened my foster-daughter about the dangers of the hitlerism

To the High Court of the Military Government

H A M S U R G

I beg of the High Court of the Military Government to kindly review this case and to pronounce a milder verdict especially so in view of the fact that my foster-daughter is the mother of a 5 years-old girl, which needs her mother urgently.

Wewelsburg 25th of September 1947

Emil Pobbe

Emil Pobbe
Wewelsburg No. 106
Kreis Bielefeld, Westphalia

My foster-daughter Irene HACHME has been sentenced to hard labour by the Military Government on 11.11.1945 because she was said to have been a Jewess. I beg the High Court of the Military Government to kindly consider a review of the case in favour of the accused for the following reasons:

My foster-daughter worked in the spinning-mills of Bielefeld at Bielefeld near Bielefeld on Quaiser. During the last first more and more male workers of the factory were called to the Wehrmacht the management of the factory asked for Jewish workers which were considered as "Aryan" and several officers of the factory were forced to take over the supervising of the Jews. Those who refused were arrested and threatened with severe punishments. The supervisors had to pass a training course of about 6 weeks with the SS at Langenbellen and Weissenau (Silesia). On 12.11.1945 the supervisor was arrested and taken to the concentration camp of Bielefeld. This camp was already in a state of great disorder and my foster-daughter began to be disoriented home but which under compulsion and threat was refused. She finally was arrested by the Allies on 1.4.1947.

As far as I know the supervising personnel of Bielefeld had to intervene frequently owing to the fact that the inmates of the camp were already knew quite well that the end of the Nazi-regime drew near so that some of the many Jewish persons started to get nervous and rebellious and began to order and discipline. They did not like to be persecuted or abused. So the personnel had to intervene repeatedly and some of the inmates had to be expelled which fact has been frankly admitted by my foster-daughter. But it is my firm belief that these expulsions were more educational than anything else. At least on the part of my foster-daughter. I beg the

Translation of Certificates.

Wewelsburg 22.9.1947

Miss Irene HASCHKE of Wigandsthal, LK Lauban, has never distinguished herself politically. Apart from that, as a native citizen, I cannot speak ill of her in any way.

signed: Alfred Geller

Wewelsburg, Kr. Büren in Westphalia

Home-address: Wigandsthal. Kr. Lauban

Reg.Bez. Liegnitz, Lower Silesia.

Being a master-joiner formerly of Wigandsthal, LK. Lauban in Silesia I certify that I have known Miss Irene HASCHKE of that place as a person always diligent and quiet. As far as I know she never roved about and has not been active politically.

signed: Robert Heim

retired master-joiner

at present: Haaren/Westphalia 20.9.1947

In my capacity as the former burgomaster of the ^{home-}community of Wigandsthal, LK. Lauban I herewith certify that Miss Irene HASCHKE has always been a good worker and morally has been of good conduct.

at present: Wewelsburg/Westph. 21 Sept.

signed: Emil Vogel

Being a former neighbour of Irene HASCHKE of Wigandsthal, LK. Lauban/Silesia I am able to certify herewith that she has not been active politically nor have her relatives and foster-parents.

at present: Wewelsburg /Westphalia, 22.9.1947

signed: Hedwig Lange

Being the former Amtsvorsteher (police administrator) of the Amts-district of Wigandsthal, LK. Lauban in Silesia I herewith certify by desire of Irene HASCHKE of Wigandsthal, at present living at Hamburg, who is known to me, that nothing disadvantageous became known to me about her conduct as regards police matters and also politically.

Hegensdorf 23 September 1947

Kreis Büren

signed: Richard Damm